

CLAIMS

1. An apparatus for obtaining positional information about surface points of a three dimensional object comprising:

5 a scanning module for measuring three dimensional position information about an object;

a video module for capturing and displaying image information from the object; and

10 a processor operating with the scanning and video modules and permitting the use of the image information captured by said video module to aid in targeting the scanning module.

15 2. An apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein said processor functions to specify a portion of the object to be targeted by the scanning module by dragging the image of an outline over the video image of the area to be targeted.

20 3. An apparatus for obtaining positional information about surface points of a three dimensional object comprising:

a scanning module for measuring three dimensional position information about an object;

25 a video module for displaying image information obtained from the scanning module;

30 a processor operating with the scanning and video modules and permitting the use of the image information displayed by said video module to further refine the targeting of the scanning module.

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4. An apparatus for obtaining positional information about surface points of a three dimensional object comprising:

a scanning module for measuring three dimensional position information about an object, said scanning module including a laser for emitting a beam of visible radiation; and a processor for controlling the scanning module and wherein said laser beam can be manually positioned so that the visible beam will target the portion of the object to be scanned in response to a control signal from the processor.

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